

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A spindle motor comprising:

a baseplate;

a rotor;

a bearing system, said bearing system further comprising at least one component directly or indirectly electrically connected to said rotor;

a recess located between said baseplate and said bearing component; and

at least one solid-state contact element,

wherein a permanent electro-conductive connection is provided between said baseplate and said bearing component of said bearing system through the exertion of mechanical forces by said solid-state contact element on at least one of said baseplate and said bearing component and wherein said solid-state contact element is accommodated in said recess.
2. (Original) The spindle motor according to Claim 1, wherein said solid-state contact element is positioned between adjoining surfaces of said baseplate and said bearing component.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) The spindle motor according to Claim 3 1, wherein said solid-state contact element is pressed into said recess.

6. (Currently Amended) The spindle motor according to Claim 14, wherein said solid-state contact element is pressed into said bore.

7. (Original) The spindle motor according to Claim 1 wherein said solid-state contact element is a spherical body.

8. (Original) The spindle motor according to Claim 1, wherein said solid-state contact element is a wire-shaped pin.

9. (Original) The spindle motor according to Claim 1, wherein said solid-state contact element is an elastic spring.

10. (Original) The spindle motor according to Claim 1, wherein said solid-state contact element is selected from the group consisting of a coil spring, a leaf spring and an annular spring.

11. (Original) The spindle motor according to Claim 1, wherein said bearing component is a bearing sleeve accommodating said shaft.

12. (Currently Amended) A spindle motor comprising:

a baseplate;

a rotor;

a bearing system, said bearing system further comprising at least one component directly or indirectly electrically connected to said rotor; and

at least one welding seam,

wherein said bearing component is a bearing sleeve accommodating said shaft,

and wherein a permanent electro-conductive connection is provided between said baseplate and said bearing sleeve ~~bearing component~~ of said bearing system through said welding seam.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (New) A spindle motor comprising:
- a baseplate;
 - a rotor;
 - a bearing system, said bearing system further comprising at least one component directly or indirectly electrically connected to said rotor;
 - a bore formed in said baseplate; and
 - at least one solid-state contact element,
- wherein a permanent electro-conductive connection is provided between said baseplate and said bearing component of said bearing system through the exertion of mechanical forces by said solid-state contact element on at least one of said baseplate and said bearing component and wherein said solid-state contact element is accommodated entirely within said bore.
15. (New) The spindle motor according to Claim 14, wherein said solid-state contact element is a spherical body.
16. (New) The spindle motor according to Claim 14, wherein said solid-state contact element is a wire-shaped pin.
17. (New) The spindle motor according to Claim 14, wherein said solid-state contact element is an elastic spring.
18. (New) The spindle motor according to Claim 14, wherein said solid-state contact element is selected from the group consisting of a coil spring, a leaf spring and an annular spring.